

Skin Integrity Risk Assessment Tool

Adapted from White, M.W., Karam, S., & Cowell, B. (1994). Skin tears in frail elders: A practical approach to prevention, Geriatric Nursing, 15 (95), pp. 95-99.

Patient Name: _____

	Enter 'YES' if present	Totals
Group I		
Positive response indicates need for risk reduction program		
History of Skin Tears in last 90 days		
Subtotal – Group I		
Group II (Highest possible score = 8)		
Positive responses to 4 or more items indicates need for risk reduction program		
a. Decision-making skills impaired		
b. Sight impaired		
c. Extensive assistance needed or total dependence in ADLs		
d. Wheelchair assistance needed		
e. Loss of balance		
f. Confined to bed or chair		
g. Unsteady gait		
h. Bruises		
Subtotal – Group II		
Group III (Highest possible score = 15)		
Positive response to 5 or more items indicates a need for risk reduction program		
a. Physically self abusive		
b. Resists ADL care		
c. Agitation		
d. Hearing impaired		
e. Decreased tactile stimulation		
f. Wheels self in chair		
g. Needs to be lifted manually or with mechanical device		
h. Contractures of arms, legs, shoulders, hands		
i. Hemiplegia or hemiparesis		
j. Trunk – partial or total inability to balance or turn body		
k. Pitting edema of legs		
l. Open lesions on extremities		
m. 3-4 senile purpura on extremities		
n. Dry, scaly skin		
Subtotal – Group III		
Positive response to 3 items in Group II and 3 or more items in Group III indicates a need for risk reduction program		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Person completing assessment: Date: </div>		